

Docket No.
524941/0005
LR:DLS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **Satoshi Shinada, et al.** Group Art Unit No.: **2853**

Application No.: **09/484,458** ✓ Examiner: **C. Stewart, Jr.**

Filed: **January 18, 2000**

For: **INK -JET PRINTING APPARATUS AND
INK CARTRIDGE THEREFOR**

Date: **June 11, 2002**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are also enclosed.

Some of the cited references were called to Applicants' attention in an official Search Reports for British Patent Application No. GB 0123399.8, which is a counterpart to the instant case. A copy of that Search Report is also enclosed, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of the cited art.

It should be noted that some of the references identified in the British search report are counterparts to various other references now being cited. For convenience, the following table shows the relationships between such references:

<u>References Cited in UK Search Report</u>	<u>Counterparts Also Cited Herein</u>
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EP 0 985 537

EP 0 960 736 (ctrpart to U.S. 09/318,269)
U.S. 09/318,268

EP 1 004 449	U.S. 6,196,670 U.S. 6,371,586 U.S. 09/449,737
EP 1 038 682	U.S. 6,312,088 WO 00/21756
WO 00/26034	U.S. 6,196,670 U.S. 6,371,586
WO 02/11986	U.S. 2002/15067

The filing dates for the cited U.S. patent applications are as follows:

09/318,268	May 25, 1999
09/318,269	May 25, 1999
09/432,272	November 2, 1999
09/442,646	November 18, 1999
09/449,732	November 26, 1999
09/449,737	November 26, 1999

Copies of these all these applications have been provided, save for 09/318,268 and 09/318,269, which the undersigned is advised are cumulative to EP 0 985 537 and EP 0 960 736, respectively. If, however, the Examiner wishes to have copies of those applications, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned with that request.

With regard to the cited pending U.S. patent applications, the Examiner is urged to consider not just the copies of the applications submitted herewith, but also the complete prosecution histories for those cases.

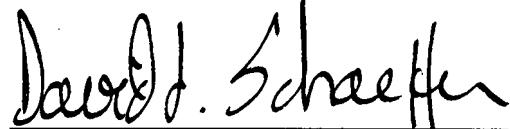
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a form be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants also wish to point out that this application is a continuation-in-part of PCT/JP99/02579, filed May 18, 1999, and that some of the cited references may not be prior art..

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4) (an RCE has been submitted herewith). Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. If, however, the Commissioner determines otherwise, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee, as well as any other fee which may now or hereafter be due, to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application remains in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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